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AMBASSADOR TO CHILE RECALLED FOR CONSULTATIONS

PY152340Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2245 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Nov (TELAM)--The Argentine Foreign Ministry reported today that Argentina's ambassador to Chile, Gen Hugo Miatello, has been recalled to Buenos Aires. Yesterday, Ambassador Miatello held a meeting with President Augusto Pinochet in Santiago.

HERALD ADVOCATES POPE AS MEDIATOR IN BEAGLE DISPUTE

PY151426Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Text] According to the Buenos Aires HERALD, Pope John Paul II is the best mediator to guarantee peace [between Chile and Argentina]. The influential Argentine English-language newspaper published an editorial on this issue in which it states that the pope is an international authority who lacks pretentions or material interests in the region under dispute. The editorial also states that the dispute may be solved through mediation and that the proposal for mediation has been well received in Argentina.

The commentary adds that a week ago the situation seemed to have reached the breaking point and that the only alternative appeared to be war. The Buenos Aires HERALD states that apparently good judgment prevailed and that there is still a lot to be discussed in order to arrive at a basis for understanding. The editorial notes that in the event of a conflict, the only beneficiaries would be rival powers which would be strengthened by a conflict between Argentina and (?Chile).

The HERALD notes that the selection of a mediator should not be difficult and that the ideal situation would be to have a neutral mediator.

VIDELA REPORTEDLY RECOVERING FROM INFLUENZA

PY160106Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2325 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Nov (TELAM)--Captain Hector de Pirro, the director general of the presidential press office, this afternoon reported in the press room that President Videla has almost recovered from a case of influenza. He added that despite these circumstances, Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla (ret) has canceled all his appointments except the meeting of the military committee to be held tomorrow at 1700. Official reports do not specify where the military committee will meet, but semiofficial sources did allow for the possibility that the meeting may be held at the president's residence, Olivos.

TALKS BEING HELD IN MOSCOW FOR SIGNING PARANA CONTRACT

PY151633Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1315 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Nov (NA)--The Argentine water and power state enterprise mission which is visiting the USSR will sign with the Soviet enterprise Tekhnopromeksport next Monday morning a contract by which this Soviet enterprise will provide technical assistance in the preparation of the final project for the middle Parana hydroelectric plant, according to a report from Moscow this morning by Col Carlos Rodriguez, a member of the Argentine official delegation.

During a telephone interview broadcast during a local radio program, Rodriguez explained that "we are discussing the details of the contract."

He added: "It is hoped that discussions will end Monday morning. If all the minor problems under discussion are solved--as I hope, because the negotiations are proceeding normally--the contract will be signed Monday."

Asked if the signing would imply some kind of a commitment regarding the contract for execution of the project, the official said: "No, Argentina has complete freedom of action to contract the construction of the project through international bids or any other procedure and not necessarily with the enterprise which helped develop the project. It has complete freedom to choose the best solution at the appropriate time."

Regarding the work which will be carried out by the Soviet technicians, Colonel Rodriguez said: "In the first stage, they are going to review what has already been done in Argentina over a period of many years and they will then advise our technicians to determine a final plan." He indicated that "the purpose of this stage is to have all studies underway so that when the Argentine Government decides to build, we will be prepared to carry out the project."

Rodriguez explained that before the contract is signed, the delegation will "look over similar projects already constructed in this country [the USSR], which are really very important."

He added: "That is, these [Soviet] enterprises have gained great experience in rivers of large volume but with little fall, like the Parana River. These are very different problems than those we are accustomed to concerning high dams."

The official added that "our problem is similar to the Volga River, which is a river of the plains with banks which are not very firm and a water level which remains fairly constant."

He also said that the middle Parana "is a multiple-use program in which ecological problems are added to the problems of generating energy." He said: "The idea is to preserve the river fauna and not disturb the river's existing condition."

Regarding his activity during the next few hours, Rodriguez said that "we are going to visit a turbine factory in Leningrad" after an 8-hour train trip at night. He added: "After this visit, we are going to fly to Volgograd, where we will visit some of the great reservoirs on the Volga River, and then we will return to Moscow to continue negotiations in order to sign an agreement on Monday."

In conclusion, Rodriguez said that "we will return to Argentina early Tuesday morning."

Rodriguez made these remarks to the Ford news program broadcast by Radio Belgrano of this capital.

AGOSTI CRITICIZES CALLS FOR 'NEW REPUBLIC'

PY100036Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2014 GMT 9 Nov 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 9 Nov (NA)--The commander of the air force, Gen Orlando Ramon Agosti, today criticized the "promoters of chaos" who advocate "a quick return to power for the sake of power itself."

He said that "the basic responsibility of the leaders is to prevent the process from failing, that the process of national reorganization must continue."

He also said that the current process "is nothing less than maintaining control of power for a sufficient period so that the Argentines will be able to recover in freedom their ability to make decisions and to build from the bottom up a sovereign and strong Argentina."

He said: "I must, without fear of being redundant, point out to those who in the last few days have seemed to be trying to convince us that this process needs an 'exit' to return the control of power to the old participants, that the Argentine Armed Forces will not hand over the process of national reorganization to those responsible for chaos and destruction."

He also said: "I want to point out to those who are proposing the founding of a 'new republic' that we are working to rebuild the nation. In this effort, it may be necessary to create a new concept of a republic, but let us not deceive ourselves over the word 'new' because the new republic will be born from the legitimacy of the process of national reorganization and the basic documents establishing the rules of the game."

The air force commander also said that "it is necessary for individuals, associating in communitarian tasks, to create again the intermediate organizations which will be in charge of social solidarity, the administration of common interests and the promotion of regional welfare. This must be done without delay and without requesting actions, privileges, regulations or promotions from the state."

General Agosti made these remarks during a speech delivered at the monthly luncheon of the Argentine advertising chamber. During his speech, he warned that "the best way to contribute to the process is not through hysterical statements, but through responsible and silent work."

He stated categorically: "These statements against the process are strengthening the conviction of the armed forces regarding its responsible presence until the citizens can fully resume the responsibility for leading the nation. Our goal is to have a sovereign country throughout the territory and to have an integrated federal society in the political, economic and demographic fields; a strong nation systematically increasing its wealth and the welfare of its inhabitants."

He also said: "It is essential that we all understand and accept that the goal of reorganizing the nation cannot be obtained through combinations, conspiracy, tricks or alliances."

CNEA HEAD BRIEFS NEW MINISTERS ON NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY102144Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 10 Nov 78 PY

[Excerpt] President Jorge Rafael Videla presided over the regular Friday cabinet meeting today. The new ministers attended the meeting for the first time, along with members of the economic team.

The president of the National Atomic Energy Commission, CNEA, Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, briefed the ministers on the Argentine nuclear energy development program. He proposed the construction of four nuclear plants, including Atucha II, to be completed by 1996. Castro Madero explained the most important aspects of the project.

In this regard, he said that there will be no need for important contributions from the national treasury until 1984 in light of the resources generated by the program itself, which is a self-financing program. He said that this excludes the decision already made to build Atucha II within the framework of the national energy plan. It will be in operation in 1987.

At the end of the meeting, the presidential press director, Capt Hector de Pirro, said that the president ordered the formation of an interministerial committee which, within 30 days, will submit a final proposal to include, besides the Argentine nuclear plan, basic guidelines for policies on exploration and exploitation of national uranium.

COMMERCE OFFICIAL HOLDS TRADE TALKS IN FRANCE, ITALY

PY141722Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1403 GMT 14 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Nov (NA)--The Argentine foreign commerce and international economic negotiations secretary has discussed Argentina's concern over European protectionism with Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac, and proposed that formulas be sought to expand economic ties between Argentina and France. He reported this today from Paris during a telephone conversation with a Buenos Aires radio station.

Alejandro Estrada is making a tour through Europe. He had the opportunity to talk with French Prime Minister Raymond Barre yesterday at the opening of an international nutrition exhibit in which Argentina has an exhibit.

In his talk with Chirac, Estrada reminded him that Argentina is not only interested in increasing its agricultural exports but that it is particularly interested in increasing its industrial exports, which he said "have interesting possibilities in Europe." Estrada explained, however, that his contacts with Barre and Chirac "are only the beginning of negotiations, which cannot yield any miraculous results."

During his telephone interview, broadcast by Radio Belgrano, Estrada said that in Italy, a previous stop on his European tour, he talked with economic officials and found "a formidable receptiveness toward Argentine products."

He said that in Italy "there is great interest in our country and, in particular, in all large public investments and technological exchange."

Estrada also held meetings with the directors of three large government-owned Italian industrial groups which cover, among other things, the oil, iron and steel and chemical sectors. He found them "quite interested in contacting Argentine enterprises to propose undertakings and initiatives involving a high degree of technology through which Argentina may gain more active participation in exports to the international market."

Asked about the specific proposal which Italy submitted in November to the Argentine Government regarding cooperation in nuclear industrial development, Estrada said that "although this is not my area of concern, I know there is active participation."

He declared that "there is great interest in [words indistinct]. Estrada added: "I believe that here in Europe we have possibilities in several areas which have not been extensively explored. If we take advantage of the experience which Europeans have in some processes, we can modernize part of our productive structure. This will help us improve our exports to world markets."

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES ELECTIONS FOR MAY 1980

PY151154Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Summary] "Last night the government approved the decree calling for general elections in May 1980." "The general elections for constitutionalization of the country will be held on the first Sunday in May, 1980." The government will issue detailed rules for the elections within 30 days.

PARTY LEADERS REACT ANGRILY TO ELECTION DATE

PY160207Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 15 May 78 PY

[Text] Today's principal news was obviously of a political nature. After the government's announcement that elections will be held in May 1980, political parties and fronts did not wait long before reacting. The opposition unanimously rejected this call for elections at such a late date because it is not in keeping with the popular will repeatedly expressed by the leaders of political parties and fronts opposed to Gen Juan Pereda Asbun's regime.

Journalists were active throughout the day, gathering the opinions of various political parties, many of which belong to fronts that presented their own candidates at the annulled July elections. The general opinion of these fronts or political coalitions was that this call for elections in 1980 should be rejected on the grounds that President Pereda had broken his promise to discuss with the political parties the date of the coming elections.

Benjamin Miguel, top leader of the Christian Democratic Party, indicated that dialog suddenly has been broken due to an error on the part of the government, a very serious error. However, he believes that it may still be corrected by revoking the decree.

Edwin Rodriguez Aguirre, member of the national executive committee of the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], believes that there is no longer room for dialog because the government has made a unilateral decision, breaking President Juan Pereda's promise to discuss with the opposition the possibility of advancing the date of the elections. Rodriguez, spokesman for Paz Estenssoro's faction of the MNR, indicated that "from now on the government cannot be regarded as reliable and will be unable to inspire trust in its future actions."

Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas, former president of the nation and former candidate for senator of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP], indicated that the decision was made behind the backs of the people and only goes to show President Pereda's desire to remain in power.

A still harsher criticism was issued by the Revolutionary Front of the Left [FRI], whose leader Manuel Morales Davilas called the decree setting the date of elections a mockery against the popular will repeatedly expressed in public statements. Morales Davilas felt that dialog with the government has been broken and added that the FRI will clearly state its position by means of a communique which will soon be released to the press.

In general terms, the opposition insisted that the elections must be held during the first half of the coming year to constitutionalize the country and truly unite the Bolivian people during the centennial of the war which cost it its Pacific coast. Edwin Rodriguez of the MNR stated that 1979 must not be considered a taboo or sacred year, but rather must provide the appropriate framework for the democratization of the country.

Labor leader Juan Lechin Oquendo, head of the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left, expressed surprise at the government's failure to listen to the workers who had asked that elections be held next year. He stated that only a constitutional regime can solve the many economic and international problems of the country and prevent it from being mortgaged. He added that the call for elections in 1980 was totally antidemocratic.

A spokesman for the Mario Gutierrez branch of the Bolivian Socialist Falange, indicated that this party rejects this call for elections, adding that a plebiscite [cabildo abierto] is now more necessary than ever to analyze the political situation of the nation. He announced that his party will issue a communique soon stating its position on the matter.

Abel Ayoroa Argandona, one of the leaders of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI], said that the decree should be viewed as a unilateral setting of a date for elections and that President Pereda has broken the dialog with the opposition. He announced that the MNRI--a member of the FUDP--has declared a state of emergency and that Hernan Siles Zuazo will shortly announce the position of the front.

In fact, Siles Zuazo, former president and former presidential candidate at the July elections, met with news media representatives in his home at 1800 to convey to them his opinion about the newly established election date. A report on this meeting will soon be forthcoming.

Antonio Aranibar, leader of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] and (Marcos Pons) of the Bolivian Communist Party, criticized the decision of the government and urged Bolivians to close ranks to struggle against President Pereda Asbun's desire to remain in power.

Other political leaders, such as Jaime Arellano, head of the People's Revolutionary Nationalist Movement, preferred to refrain from commenting on the subject, promising to issue statements after studying the situation with their parties' executive boards.

ENERGY MINISTER DISCUSSES GAS SALES TO ARGENTINA

PY150237Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Before participating in his first meeting as minister in President Juan Pereda's cabinet, Energy and Hydrocarbons Minister Lt Col David Fernandez Vizcarra stated that only in July 1979 will Bolivia be able to increase its export volume of natural gas to Argentina by 70 million cubic feet daily.

The minister also referred to the creation of a commission to study the scope of future trade with Brazil. [recorded portion indistinct]

Reporters accredited to government house asked the reasons why Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB] purchases volumes of gas from the Occidental Petroleum Company. He said that 50 percent of Occidental's production belongs to YPFB, while the latter purchases the remaining 50 percent from Occidental, because it is the only company authorized to trade at the binational level. He clearly explained that unpredictable factors have forced the postponement of selling 70 million cubic feet more of gas to Argentina until July 1979. [recorded portion indistinct]

The ministers also said that at the Tuesday ministers meeting, he will brief the president on all these aspects.

LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS PROCEEDING NORMALLY THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

PY151729Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1541 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 15 Nov (AFP)--According to official reports released here, the legislative elections were continuing normally throughout Brazil at 1200 (1500 GMT), 4 hours after the elections began. In Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and other large cities of the country, there was a large percentage of voters to elect 23 seats in the Senate (1/3 of the Senate plus 1 belonging to the new State of Mato Grosso do Sul), 420 federal deputies and 846 provincial deputies.

The Brazilian president, Gen Ernesto Geisel, and his successor as of 15 March 1979, Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo, voted in Brasilia.

Former Brazilian President Janio Quadros said after voting in Sao Paulo that in the workers neighborhoods he saw great unrest, which undoubtedly will be seen in votes of discontent.

Senator Franco Montoro, member of the only opposition party, the Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB), said after voting that the Brazilian family today will be able to peacefully carry out a real revolution for justice and freedom. In several states, particularly in the north and northeast, preventive police vigilance was increased at the request of local officials in order to guarantee electoral order.

REPORT RELEASED ON NEW TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH PRC

PY160219Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Nov 78 p 20 PY

[Text] Brasilia--In addition to the purchase of 2 million barrels of crude oil during the next 2 years, Brazil may also sign a technological aid contract with the PRC for the construction of minipower and hydroelectric plants, according to the letter of intent signed between the two countries during the visit made to Peking last week by Mines and Energy Minister Shigeaki Ueki.

The report was disclosed yesterday by the minister's special adviser, Luiz Antonio Medeiros, who also provided a summary of the negotiations held in China by the Brazilian delegation. Speaking on behalf of the minister, who rested at home the entire day, Medeiros said the letter of intent states that Brazil could provide the PRC with the technology for building large hydroelectric plants. Of the 12 million kilowatts now installed in China, 10 percent is produced by miniplants, most of them operating on coal or oil (70 percent).

According to Medeiros, the difficulties surrounding the signing of a final agreement for the transfer of technology in the hydroelectric field lie in the decentralization of power in that country. There, the adviser explained, each region is autonomous in negotiating its agreements even though they must be approved by the corresponding ministry. In this case, it would be the Ministry of Water Conservancy and Power, which is headed by a woman, Chien Cheng-ying.

With respect to the contracts for the sale of Brazilian iron ore to China, Medeiros explained that the trip's greatest achievements will be realized in future years when the Rio Doce Valley Company, jointly with the Brazilian Mines Association and Samarco, concludes a 15-year agreement for the supply of iron ore. Negotiations to this effect will begin during the first quarter of 1979.

The ministry's optimism is justified by the expansion of the Chinese metallurgic sector which, from a present production rate of 30 million tons of steel, will grow to 65 million tons in 1985, according to that country's iron and steel industry plans. In addition, Medeiros stated, Chinese iron ore is not of good quality--a fact which would encourage China to diversify imports of this product. Presently, Australia is its largest supplier of iron ore.

Minister Shigeaki Ueki's adviser also reported that the price of the oil Brazil is buying from China has still not been set, and this will take place only after the OPEC meeting. According to the agreement negotiated by the two countries, during the first year--that is, 1979--800,000 to 1 million tons of petroleum will arrive for PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation]. During the second year, 1980, 1.2 million to 1.5 million tons of petroleum will arrive. From the third to the fifth year, the volume of the supply remains open and will depend on future negotiations between PETROBRAS and the PRC oil corporation.

JORNAL PRAISES UEKI'S TRADE PACT WITH PRC

PY151650Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 14 Nov 78 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "A Sign of Ability"]

[Text] The trade agreement signed recently between Brazil and the PRC demonstrates above all commercial ability. A month after the signing in Tokyo of the peace agreement between Japan and the PRC--which also involved an unprecedented and large commercial transaction --Brazilian diplomacy, acting through the Mines and Energy Ministry, managed to sign another 5-year agreement which definitely opened a vast market for Brazilian products.

The end of the 1970's is witnessing one of the most remarkable political phenomenon of all times. Right after the death of Mao Tse-tung and the consolidation of the leadership of Hua Kuo-feng and his political braintrust Teng Hsiao-ping, the PRC broke off the cordon sanitaire behind which it lives. And without softening their doctrinaire orthodoxy or their attitude toward the Soviet Union, the PRC appeals to have placed priority on the economic modernization which Mao seemed to have neglected toward the end of his era. Chinese economic modernization implies the opening of a market of yet unpredictable proportions. How much can the most populous nation in the world buy? What would it want to buy?

Although the opening toward the PRC was initiated by the United States under Richard Nixon, the tone of that opening and a hint of the PRC's commercial needs were given by the recent Japanese-PRC peace agreement. Leaping over historic preconceptions which seemed to be insurmountable, the two Asian giants struck a rapproachment which is perhaps irreversible. The PRC and Japan did business on the order of $5 billion in 1978. The PRC should become Japan's largest individual oil supplier, and the PRC's purchases from Japan should make it Japan's second largest trade partner, just behind the United States. This year alone, 30 Japanese companies have already closed deals with the PRC, such as contracts to produce steel, erect steelmaking plants, install petrochemical plants and set up oil exploration rigs.

It is not much of a surprise that the Japanese--the best businessmen in modern times--succeeded in opening the PRC's market so quickly, but it comes as a surprise that Brazil entered that market with a very promising 5-year contract, winning out over economic offensives by Japan and other large world economies to boot. This was a demonstration of commercial ability and political experience on Brazil's part.

Trade with the PRC is conducted on the basis of barter more than on the basis of money. Oil is the PRC's strongest suit. [paragraph continues]

The agreement with Brazil provides for the immediate exchange of 20,000 barrels per day for iron ore (2.5 million tons in 1979), sugar and steel products. This is the first step and a very decisive one as far as iron ore is concerned. The PRC obtains its iron ore from Australia, which is geographically closer. So placing a wedge in the iron ore market can be considered an accomplishment.

The PRC's opening to the world is one of those episodes which can change history. Its consequences are perhaps still difficult to foresee, but at any rate, it is interesting that Brazil should be participating actively in the PRC's opening to the world.

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH POLAND TO EXPAND TRADE

PY131753Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 10 Nov 78 p 23 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Brazil and Poland yesterday signed an agreement to expand the contracts under which Poland purchases Brazilian iron ore and Brazil imports Polish mineral coal. They also agreed to extend these accords, involving $1.3 billion, until 1990. However, the quantity of the products involved in the transaction were not disclosed because, according to Lycio Faria, secretary general of the Industry and Commerce Ministry, the quantities may be adjusted periodically, depending on SIDERBRAS' [Brazilian Iron and Steel Corporation] attitude toward the diversification of coal suppliers and the types of coal used.

The agreement to exchange Brazilian iron ore for Polish mineral coal was signed by Antoni Karas, Polish under secretary of foreign trade and maritime economy and head of the Polish trade mission which visited Brazil, and by Lycio de Faria, secretary general of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. The Polish under secretary indicated that his country intends to establish a balance between the values and quantities involved in the exchange and that it is interested in technical cooperation for the exploitation of coal in Brazil. He reported that his country has a great deal of experience in this activity and that it has experts and proper equipment.

The Polish official also announced that his country is ready to cooperate with Brazil in a project to exploit Colombian coal in conjunction with SIDERBRAS. In this regard he delivered a technical feasibility study to the Brazilian Government, which chose to study the matter at a later date since it is subject to Colombian approval. Poland had already participated in the first stage of the surveys carried out in Colombia and now wants to participate in the next stages of the project as well.

During the meetings held by Industry and Commerce Minister Angelo Calmon de Sa in Warsaw in July, it was established that a consortium of Brazilian enterprises and a consortium of Polish enterprises would implement trade in other sectors such as iron and steel. The trade would involve $210 million worth of Brazilian products and $140 million worth of Polish products over a period of 2 and 1/2 years. In view of the talks held by the parties, it is believed possible to implement a memorandum of intent signed some time ago and even a possible increase in the quantities involved in the deal.

At this point, Brazil is selling coffee, cocoa, soybeans, iron ore and rough sisal to Poland and is buying powdered milk, sulphur, coal, laminated steel, steel rails, and barbed wire. In 1977, Brazil exported $24,733,000 worth of iron ore, approximately 1.5 million tons, and it is estimated that the amount for this year will be similar. Last year, Brazil purchased 1.1 million tons of coal worth $66,221,000 and it is expected that 1.5 million tons will be purchased this year.

PERU'S FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA PUENTE ARRIVES

PY152032Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1930 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, 15 Nov (AFP)--Peruvian Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente arrived here today on an official visit which will last until Sunday. De la Puente was received at Pudahuel airport by his Chilean colleague, Hernan Cubillos, who accompanied him to downtown Santiago.

The Peruvian foreign minister said that his country is building a policy of cooperation and peace. This attitude, he added, is shared by all the peoples of the hemisphere, and especially by Chile. De la Puente then stated his conviction that the greatest challenge should be the development and welfare of all the peoples of Latin America.

Finally, he said: I bring a very cordial greeting to the Chilean people from the Peruvian people.

During his stay in Chile, the visiting foreign minister will have two meetings with President Gen Augusto Pinochet, hold talks with Foreign Minister Cubillos and sign a joint communique.

PINOCHET ASSURES EXTRADITION OF CONTRERAS IF FOUND GUILTY

PY160127Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0018 GMT 16 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, 15 Nov (AFP)--It was reported here today that Chilean President Augusto Pinochet gave assurances that if Gen Manuel Contreras, implicated in the Letelier case, is found guilty, he will grant his extradition.

The chief of state made this statement, which was published by the magazine HOY, before 25 foreign journalists invited by the government to learn about the actual situation in Chile.

During the press meeting, General Pinochet stated that the government repudiated the assassination of Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier from the beginning, and continues to do so.

Pinochet added that everything is in the hands of justice, and if the conclusion is reached that Gen Manuel Contreras, the former head of the now disbanded National Intelligence Department, is found to have had some participation, he will grant his extradition.

VEJA CLAIMS CUBILLOS WORKED FOR CIA; CUBILLOS DENIES REPORTS

PY092217Y Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 1 Nov 78 p 38, 40 PY

[Unattributed report: "CIA's Man"]

[Excerpt] When there were signs in 1970 that socialist candidate Salvador Allende might win the presidential election, several U.S. multinational companies and the CIA arrived at the same conclusion: Allende's victory and, if events made it necessary later, his inauguration, should be blocked. There were reports that the interested multinational companies supplied the money to start up the anti-Allende campaign and financed conservative candidate Jorge Alessandri. It was also reported that the CIA's role was to supply an agent to coordinate efforts and to hand out the money. Most of the details of this are known, but not everything has been completely clarified. One unknown detail was the identity of that CIA agent: Who could he be?

In Washington last Thursday, a U.S. Government source told Roberto Garcia, VEJA's correspondent in the U.S. capital, that the CIA agent--believe it or not--was current Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos, who had worked for the conservative newspaper EL MERCURIO in the past.

In fact, clues supporting that came to light last Wednesday during the trial of Roberto Barrelez, a former ITT employee involved in attempts by his company to destabilize the Chilean regime in 1970. Barrelez is accused of having lied about the Chilean episodes in a statement to the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 1973. Barrelez' trial before Judge Aubrey Robinson of the District of Columbia Court had barely begun when his lawyer Patrick Wall used a classic gambit in cases of this nature: Lawyer Wall said that the CIA was hampering the defense of his client by forbidding access to documents related to the case, and some of those documents--the lawyer stressed--were directly related to Hernan Cubillos.

In view of the lawyer's insistance that the court order the CIA to release the documents, Judge Robinson suspended the trial and asked the prosecutor and the defender to meet privately with him to discuss the matter, which can be done under provisions of U.S. laws. Later, reconvening the jury which was called for the preliminary phase of the trial, Judge Robinson announced that "exceptional circumstances" prompted him to suspend the trial and dismiss the jury. It is true that in theory the government, through the prosecutor, can appeal the judge's decision--but nobody in Washington believes that the appeal will be made. Whether he is liable to a sentence or not, the court will leave Barrelez alone.

What happened in the meeting of the judge, the lawyer and the prosecutor? According to sources available to VEJA in Washington, it seems likely that the prosecutor withdrew the accusations against Barrelez--as permitted by law--in view of the evidence he may have revealed through "a slip of his tongue." That is to say that by mentioning Cubillos, Barrelez hinted that he was willing to make CIA secrets public if the prosecutor--who is technically a government functionary and, as such, interested in protecting the CIA--insisted on proceeding with the trial. Everything seems to indicate that the prosecutor, under pressure from the CIA and fully informed of the agency's actions in Chile, agreed to drop the case.

Cubillos Rejects Allegations

PY151710Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1633 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 15 Nov (AFP)--Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos today rejected reports from Washington which link him with the CIA.

He said: "I fully reject the charges that have appeared in certain U.S. newspapers which point me out as an alleged agent of the CIA. The twisted intention of these reports is so obvious that it relieves me of detailed comment," he added.

IQUITOS TO DECLARE GENERAL STRIKE TO OBTAIN OIL

PA152156Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1852 GMT 15 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 15 Nov (AFP)--It was learned here today that the city of Iquitos, capital of Peru's Amazon region, will declare an indefinite general strike beginning 24 November. Sources said that the decision was made by the city's defense committee to force the government to give Iquitos 10 percent of the oil mined in Amazon region. This percentage was promised by the military regime to the people of Iquitos for communal development work.

NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT TO REFINANCE PORTION OF FOREIGN DEBT

PA130357Y Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 7 Nov 78 p 1N PA

[Text] The Hague, 6 Nov (ANDINA)--The Netherlands Government confirmed today that a portion of the Peruvian debt will be refinanced "on special terms" including a 50-year amortization with a 10-year deferment and low interest rates.

Peruvian Economy and Finance Minister Dr Javier Silva Ruete obtained these advantageous terms in addition to two loans--one to improve Peru's balance of payments and the other for technical cooperation projects--during his 24-hour stay in the Netherlands.

In his meetings with Franz Andriessen and Jan de Koning, Netherlands ministers of finance and development aid respectively, Silva Ruete encountered great willingness on the part of the Netherlands Government to cooperate.

It was learned that the Netherlands Government agreed to have a portion of the Peruvian debt paid over a 50-year period, with a 10-year deferment, at 0.75 percent interest annually. Peru will also receive a 25-million florin loan to be applied to its balance of payments with a 30-year amortization period, an 8-year deferment and interest of 4.75 percent annually, and a 10-million florin loan for technical cooperation projects.

Silva Ruete talked with Andriessen and De Koning about matters related to new Netherlands investments in priority sectors established in the Peruvian Government's 1978-1980 economic and financial program.

In the meetings the ministers established the bases on which to increase the already significant Netherlands technical and financial cooperation, particularly in support of Peruvian agriculture.

During his brief stay in the Netherlands, Silva Ruete also met with representatives of development organizations and the Netherlands Foreign Ministry, to whom he explained the Peruvian Government's policies and plans. At the end of his visit, before leaving for Rome this afternoon, Silva Ruete expressed his gratification over the agreements reached with the high-ranking Netherlands authorities.

ECONOMY MINISTER'S TALKS IN ROME REPORTED

PY091747Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Nov 78 PY

[Text] It has been reported from Rome that Peruvian Economy and Finance Minister Javier Silva Ruete has achieved important progress in promoting our country's foreign trade during a meeting with Senator Rinaldo Ossola, Italian foreign trade minister.

Before concluding his visit to Rome, Silva Ruete talked with Ossola about matters pertaining to trade and how to ensure that Italian capital is attracted to Peru. They also discussed aspects regarding the price of Peruvian raw materials and how to seek improved conditions for placing them on the Italian and EEC markets.

It has been reported that the meeting led to the discussion of opening the market [words indistinct] and Silva Ruete said that there would be an increase in Peruvian trade with Italy and the EEC.

The Peruvian minister--who as we reported a few minutes ago was received by the pope yesterday morning--upon leaving for Japan at noon, expressed his satisfaction regarding the spirit of collaboration he had found in the Rome government and private financial sectors.

The day before yesterday Silva Ruete met with Amintore Fanfani, president of the Senate, and with Treasury Minister Filippo Mario Pandolfi, with whom he discussed matters linked to the economic and financial relations between Peru and Italy. Fanfani, one of the personalities in the Italian political sector, received Silva Ruete at the [name indistinct] palace where they discussed various matters for just over 1 hour. The dialog included Peruvian-Italian relations, the Peruvian situation and the overall economic panorama of Latin America.

The Italian treasury minister and Silva Ruete discussed important matters [words indistinct] the project for electricity in Peru and possible Italian investment in Peru on the basis of the recent program which was approved by the government headed by Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez.

Afterward, Silva Ruete met with high-ranking officials from the foreign trade, treasury and foreign ministries in order to discuss aspects related to financing priority investment for Peru.

The Peruvian minister also held meetings with important Italian investment groups, which expressed their interest in implementing several projects in the energy, mining and agroindustrial sectors. During these meetings, the Italian private and government financial sectors expressed their confidence in Peru's immediate future and also referred to the recent reorganization of our country's external debt and the well-defined development program which has been implemented by the Peruvian Government.

It has been reported in banking circles that deals have been concluded between the two countries for the implementation of energy projects in Peru through the investment of $150 million at the beginning of next year.

In Japan, Silva Ruete has scheduled meetings with government and private personalities such as [words indistinct].

Minister Returns From Refinancing Trip

PY151615Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Nov 78 PY

[Text] Economy and Finance Minister Javier Silva Ruete stated yesterday that the reorganization of Peru's external debt for 1979 and 1980 is an objective which has been fully achieved. He also indicated that this is a demonstration of confidence in Peru's future by the international financial community.

On his return to the country after having carried out his task of reorganizing the external debt, Silva said that the Peruvian Government's proposals had been accepted and that in this sense we have concluded an important stage of the approved economic program. Silva also said that this in no way means that all problems have been resolved, but (?the base has been laid) for achieving one of the economic program's objectives.

PST SAYS ISRAEL LAUNCHING ARMS TRADE FROM MEXICAN TERRITORY

PA151744Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2338 GMT 14 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 14 Nov (AFP)--The Socialist Workers Party [PST] charged here today that Israel plans to install on Mexican territory a factory to manufacture Arava fighter planes for sale to the countries on the American continent.

The PST says in a document that for 5 months Israel has been using Mexican territory as a base to sell arms to several countries on the continent, including Nicaragua.

According to the PST, the sales are made from an office under the name of Israeli Aeronautics Industries located in an upper class district. The office has closed circuit television and armed Israeli guards under the command of an army major in active service, the PST report says. It concludes by saying that 60 percent of Israel's $1 billion in arms sales in 1977 were made to Latin America.

Israeli Embassy Responds to Charges

PA151745Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0138 GMT 15 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 14 Nov (EFE)--The Israeli Embassy in Mexico said today, Tuesday, that the local office of Israeli Aeronautics Industries (IAI) "operates within the legal framework."

In a telephone call to EFE, the embassy said that the accusations against the IAI office stem from persons bent on "negatively affecting the good relations between Mexico and Israel."

The charge was made by the secretary general of the progovernment Socialist Workers Party, who said that the IAI is a center for arms sales to Latin America.

NEW PETROLEUM DEPOSIT DISCOVERED IN NORTHERN AREA

PA131700Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1616 GMT 13 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Nov (AFP)--The discovery of a new hydrocarbon deposit which will increase Mexico's reserves by over 100 billion barrels of crude was announced here today.

At present, Mexico's potential petroleum reserves amount to 200 billion barrels. The information was released by Jorge Diaz Serrano, director general of the state-owned Mexican Petroleum (PEMEX) enterprise.

The new basin, which is 120 km long and 28 km wide and has an average depth of 1,800 meters, is in the north between Tampico and Misantla, on the Atlantic Ocean.

Sixteen thousand wells will be required for the exploitation of the new deposit, the same number of wells drilled from the beginning of petroleum exploitation in Mexico in 1938 to the present.

The established program, which includes the use of 120 drilling rigs, will take 13 years, Diaz Serrano said. The new deposit also has a reserve of 40 billion cubic feet of natural gas.

NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION DELEGATION HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE

PA160339Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Nov 78 PA

[Text] The United People's Movement [Movimiento Pueblo Unido] is the result of agreements reached by 22 organizations which have fought the government of General Somoza in Nicaragua, according to statements made this morning by members of a delegation of representatives of those organizations who held a news conference in the Blue Room of the Legislative Palace.

The Nicaraguan delegates arrived in Panama this morning from Costa Rica, where they had also sought the solidarity and support of the people and government of that country for the cause which they are promoting throughout the continent. Spokesman for the delegation is newsman Carlos Fernando Chamorro, son of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, assassinated leader of the anti-Somoza opposition. Other members of the group include Gloria Carrion and Silvia Reyes of the Association of Women Concerned About the Nation's Problems; Francisco Sanchez, member of the University Student Youth; Jaime Brenes of the High School Student Movement; and Nellie Castillo of the Basic Christian Communities.

Chamorro said that the objectives of the United People's Movement can be summarized in three points: 1) Mobilization of the people for the overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship; 2) Increased organization and unity of the broad popular sectors; 3) Promotion of the unity of the revolutionary forces.

Here in Panama the delegates of the movement hope to achieve greater support for their cause in the form of various actions of solidarity that will contribute to the isolation of General Somoza's regime.

According to Chamorro, the people of Nicaragua maintain their faith and conviction that the circumstances will be right very soon for ending the genocidal dictatorship. At the same time, they are grateful for the demonstrations of affection and respect they have received from Panama in the struggle for the liberation of their country.

VIETNAMESE REFUGEE SHIP ILLEGALLY FLYING PANAMANIAN FLAG

PA160108Y Paris AFP in English 0048 GMT 16 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Panama City, Nov 15 (AFP)--The Panamanian Government said today that the ship Hai Hong, barred by the Malaysian Government from landing 2,500 Vietnamese refugees, is illegally flying the Panamanian flag.

The Foreign Ministry said that Panamanian consulates in Asia had been instructed that the "traffic of the ship Hai Hong is illicit since she does not belong to the Panamanian register (of shipping)." The ministry said that the ship's wandering trying to find a home for the refugees had "given rise to attacks by the European press against Panama."

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT TO ELIMINATE 'SINECURES'

PA151647Y Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 15 Nov 78 pp 1, 7 PA

[Text] Assembly of Community [Corregimiento] Representatives President Victor Corrales plans the elimination of sinecures--persons in positions requiring no work yet receiving compensation--known locally as "botellas."

"While I am president of the assembly there will be no 'botellas' permitted. Every position will be a working one," Corrales Nunez told the press yesterday in disclosing a restructuring program for that organization.

He said that during his tenure he will strive to provide the assembly with an increasing prestige. "The doors to my office will remain open for consultation with all groups, without regard for a social class condition or political ideologies."

The assembly president said that "the more consultations we sustain, the better it will be for all concerned."

He deplored the recent incidents which arose with the appointment of governors, but said this was a prerogative of the chief executive "and we want to be very respectful of the laws."

Following the appointments of Colon Governor Alfonso Yepes de Leon, a labor leader, and Darien Governor Olivia Othon, the community representatives of both provinces protested the appointments.

Both groups went to the Presidencia to lodge their protests, but President Aristides Royo stood pat by his appointments and urged the representatives to collaborate with the new governors.

The Darien representatives acceded, but not so the Colon representatives who carried their protests to the floor of the assembly and threatened to boycott sessions of the Provincial Coordination Council until the appointment has been withdrawn. The new governor automatically heads the council.

Corrales Nunez also announced that the new National Legislative Council comprising four representatives for each of the nation's nine provinces and one for the San Blas archipelago, will be formally installed Friday, Nov. 17.

In order to keep expenses down to a minimum, and abide by the austerity program ordered by President Aristides Royo, Corrales Nunez said he had requested that all equipment and transportation units used by the National Legislative Council be transferred to the Assembly of Community Representatives for use by members of the new council.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS ON ECONOMIC SITUATION

PA1118000Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1501 GMT 11 Nov 78 PA

[Speech by Panamanian Vice President Ricardo de la Espriella at closing session of National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives at Justo Arosemena Legislative Palace in Panama City--live]

[Text] Honorable president of the Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, cabinet ministers, representatives of the diplomatic corps; honorable representatives:

Expressly fulfilling a constitutional mandate, on this date I submit the report on the state's income and expense budget and the national development plan. This is a fitting occasion to convey to you a cordial and warm greeting from His Excellency Aristides Royo, president of the republic, and to open the constant dialog we must maintain in the search for the solutions our country permanently requires.

Panama, whose economic welfare rests on its great opening toward foreign countries, has suffered the impact of the adverse condition of the world economy, which has resulted in a slowing in the growth of its production during the last 4 years. In fact, national production grew by 1.6 percent in 1977.

This growth was less than that of the country's population during that year, which was approximately 2.5 percent. From this it can be deduced that per capita production dropped almost 1 percent during the last year.

Both the economic recession and high rate of inflation in the industrialized countries contributed to this phenomenon. These were transmitted to Panama's economy through foreign trade mechanisms. Thus, the prices of oil and oil byproducts, raw materials and finished goods have been increasing, which has resulted in great pressure on our balance of payments and the destruction of all of the country's efforts to stabilize its foreign trade balances.

This situation of recession with inflation resulted in a drop in the number of employed from 487,400 in 1974 to 470,000 in 1977. This decrease in employment opportunities necessarily entailed a reduction in family income, especially among young families with a low education level.

However, it was not only family and production units that suffered from this reduction of economic activity. The government, whose resources fundamentally depend on the level of income of persons and business enterprises, is more strongly affected each year in its capacity to meet its expense and investments, requiring greater financing and, consequently, a significant increase in the public debt. This debt in turn exerts constant pressure on our budget and recently led the government into adopting the measure of refinancing part of its debt to prepay loans expiring over the medium term. It has extended the terms of public debt and reduced its cost.

A government's current account reflects its financial condition. Thus, in 1977 total current revenues amounted to 379.4 million balboas and current expenditures to 344.1 million. This resulted in a surplus of almost 35 million balboas. This surplus was due in large part to the collection of 31.1 million balboas of sales taxes, known as the 5-percent tax.

It is worth noting that this surplus allowed us to finance part of the national investment plan. Particularly noteworthy in this work was the initiation of construction on new hydroelectric plants such as La Estrella-Los Valles, La Fortuna and the expansion of the power transmission system, the sewage systems, completion of Tocumen Airport, construction of new housing units and expansion of health and education programs--to mention only the most important projects.

It is worth noting that many of the Panamanian people's aspirations and needs have been fulfilled during the 10 years of the revolutionary process. We have established over 300 agricultural and industrial projects, over 2,600 projects involving schools, health centers, aqueducts and wells, and over 1,700 projects involving roads, bridges, powerlines, telephones and other communications media.

The economic indicators for the present year indicate that a slight recovery process has begun. It will be reflected in a growth rate of approximately 2.5 percent and an increase in employment. This recovery is due in part to fiscal and other measures adopted by the national government in late 1976. Such sectors as wholesale and retail trade, as well as the construction industry, recovered during the first half of 1978. We hope this recovery will continue.

Despite this increase in production activity, the government's current account reflected a deficit of close to 6 million balboas in September 1978. In view of this deficit and of the need to move forward with a vigorous public investment program to provide further well-being for the population, the national government has adopted measures to establish austerity and rationalize public spending which will reduce its current expenditures to the minimum.

In addition, and in view of the country's dire financial condition, we plan to be more demanding in the future about the profitability of each project within the various sectorial programs supporting the public investment plan in order to guarantee that projects generate sufficient income to cover their own obligations. You, honorable representatives, must also feel committed to this government strategy, for which it is necessary that, in the projects you promote for the development of your respective communities, you bear very much in mind the self-financing capacity of such projects.

We have estimated a growth of 8 percent in the central government's operating budget in 1979. In it, however, priority will continue to be given to the financing of education and health programs in order not to hamper their future development.

The public investment program for 1979 will amount to approximately 470 million balboas. It will make it possible to continue the implementation of important projects included in the national development program and to promote new programs to increase the country's production capacity in order to achieve, within the next 5 years, an economic growth rate of 7 percent. Included among these investment projects are the Arraijan-Chorrera Freeway; continuation of the Pan-American Highway to Colombia; construction of the Colon water purification plan; expansion of the Arraijan-Correr-Vacamonte aqueduct; construction of new basic schools; completion of the La Estrella-Los Valles hydroelectric project; intensification of construction at La Fortuna project; construction and equipping of regional university centers at Penonome, Chitre, Santiago, David and Colon; and a strengthening of housing programs nationwide.

We must try to keep up our frontal attack on poverty as a key objective leading us toward liberation from economic dependence in a gradual and effective manner. However, we must do so by selecting the best options and by strengthening our criteria in order to be able to determine the best project--and all this at the lowest possible social cost.

Honorable representatives, based on the postulates and teachings of the top leader of the revolutionary process, Brig Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera, we must understand that whether the outlook presented by the 1978 economic indicators will hold and improve in 1979 depends on a joint effort of all sectors and harmony among the branches of the state. We must bear in mind continuously that the Torrijos-Carter treaties will go into effect in October 1979, with their contributions, not only financial, but as part of the infrastructure for which we have struggled and which we plan to develop efficiently to accelerate our country's development.

The struggle against poverty in Panama needs you--not only your efforts in political leadership, but as a leadership capable of promoting increases in the nation's production to make us what we hope to be: a really independent country. Thank you. [applause]

BRIEFS

FUNDS FOR SMALL INDUSTRY--The Commerce and Industries Ministry will use 2.8 million balboas to promote and maintain small industries in Herrera, Los Santos, Chiriqui and Veraguas, Vice Minister Oscar Osorio reported during talks with businessmen from the cental provinces. The business representatives reiterated their intention of continuing to invest. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Nov 78 PA]

NO GOVERNMENT PROTEST FOR NICARAGUAN INCURSION

PA160249Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Sources within the Public Security Ministry say that the government has decided not to protest to the OAS against the latest incursion by the Nicaraguan National Guard into Costa Rican territory. Making an announcement to this effect, Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey said that to make the protest would be to reiterate what our government has said on other occasions. The minister said that the final report on the incursion by two Nicaraguan helicopters would be sent to the foreign ministries [as heard] of all countries accredited here through the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry.

Evidence Gathered on Incursion

PA160250Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Nov 78 PA

[Text] An official of the legal advisory office of the Interior Ministry has left for the Los Chiles area to gather evidence regarding the latest incursion by the Nicaraguan National Guard into Costa Rican territory. Minister Echeverria Brealey said that the official would bring back photographs of the tracks left by the two helicopters which were in Costa Rican territory for a period of 2 hours. In addition, the official will take depositions from residents. Once the corresponding report has been prepared, it will be sent to high-ranking officials of the Foreign Ministry to be distributed to the diplomatic missions accredited here.

CIVIL GUARD TO FIRE ON MILITARY BORDER VIOLATORS

PA151359Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2358 GMT 14 Nov 78 PA

[By Jose Joaquin Loria]

[Excerpt] San Jose, 14 Nov (LATIN)--Costa Rica denounced today new violations of its territorial sovereignty by the Nicaraguan Air Force. It also announced that it is negotiating with several unidentified countries for the purchase of antiaircraft weapons. Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria made the statements during a news conference held at the Foreign Ministry this afternoon. "The Costa Rican Civil Guard has been ordered to open fire on the Nicaraguan militarymen who enter our country," Echeverria told newsmen.

EL SALVADOR

ARMED FORCES UNCOVER PLOT TO DISRUPT HARVEST

PA151536Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0325 GMT 14 Nov 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 14 Nov (LATIN)--The armed forces high command announced today that it has uncovered a terrorist plot aimed at disrupting the coffee, cotton and sugar harvests, the main export and consumption products of this country. The report indicates that the self-styled clandestine Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces [FPL] has been plotting to organize strikes, attacks on buses carrying farm hands, the burning of spraying planes and kidnapings. The intelligence services of the security bodies under the Defense Ministry discovered this terrorist plan to disrupt the harvests which take place in El Salvador from November to March.

The armed forces high command is made up of President Gen Carlos Humberto Romero, Defense Minister Gen Federico Castillo Yanez, Under Secretary Col Jose Eduardo Iraheta and Chief of Staff Gen Jose Luis Ramon Rosales.

The armed forces high command indicated that it is ready to apply the full force of the law to those who are found to be responsible for carrying out the FPL's terrorist plans or those who have ties with the group. During this month, several terrorist actions have been attributed to the clandestine FPL, the Revolutionary People's Army, the Armed Forces of National Resistance and other groups. The high command said that the FPL has planned to carry out kidnapings, attacks, robberies, assassinations, demonstrations and strikes and to set fires during the coffee, cotton and sugar harvests.

NICARAGUA

PROTEST LODGED WITH COSTA RICA OVER FSLN ATTACK

PA151519Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Gen Anastasio Somoza's government has lodged a new protest with Costa Rican Ambassador Vergilio Chaverri over an alleged Sandinist attack from Costa Rican territory. The protest note was delivered by an official of the Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry to the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua. Foreign Affairs Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier was immediately informed about it. The documents will be received in San Jose today for review and preparation of a response.

BORDER VIOLATIONS, VENEZUELAN AMMUNITION REPORTS DENIED

PA151917Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1828 GMT 15 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 15 Nov (LATIN)--The National Guard denied today that it had charged that ammunition captured from insurgents on the southern border was found in boxes marked "Defense Ministry of Venezuela."

"This report was irresponsibly published by a news agency (which is not LATIN). It is totally groundless because no one in the National Guard has issued a report to that effect. It is false that ammunition has been captured in boxes marked with that inscription," the National Guard official spokesman said. He added that weapons and ammunition were captured during the weekend battles on the southern border, but it is very difficult to determine their origin.

"It is ridiculous to think that people go into battle carrying ammunition in boxes and much less in marked ones," he said. The spokesman also denied a report from Costa Rica to the effect that Nicaraguan helicopters had landed on Costa Rican territory. "That is absurd. We stay far away from the border to avoid confusion. We prefer to let the guerrillas from Costa Rica enter Nicaragua and then we fight them 5 or 6 km inside national territory," he said.

OAS MEDIATION COMMISSION RETURNS TO COUNTRY

PA160140Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0010 GMT 16 Nov 78 PA

[Text] The three members of the OAS friendly cooperation commission, who were out of the country for consultations with their respective governments, returned to Managua today. The members of the commission are Adm Ramon Emilio Jimenez, Guatemalan Vice Foreign Minister Dr Alfredo Obiols Gomez and U.S. representative William Bowdler. The members of the commission were reportedly accompanied by four other officials.

GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO GRANT EXIT PERMITS

PA151923Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Reports from our correspondents in Managua indicate that an average of 1,000 Nicaraguans a day have been leaving the country since September. This exodus of Nicaraguans is due to fear that new armed clashes will take place between guerrillas and the National Guard. During clashes thousands of civilians have died. The reports add that Nicaraguan immigration authorities continue to grant visas to leave the country. This refutes a report that the government was prohibiting the departure of people from the country.

SANDINIST LEADER SAYS PEOPLE REJECT NEGOTIATED SOLUTION

PA160348Y Havana International Service in Spanish 2315 GMT 15 Nov 78 PA

[Part one of interview with "Sandinist leader" Jaime (Wilo) Roman recorded somewhere in Nicaragua; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Roman] In September our people rose with great force to overthrow the Somoza dictatorship. I can tell you that all social classes and groups expressed their rejection in all the cities of the country arising in armed struggle against Somoza. Now, however, an effort is being made to make a mockery of that struggle. This effort is being made by reactionary sectors which, in alliance with imperialism, are now involved in an alleged mediation, or negotiation, that has as its only goal continuing the regime of exploitation and oppression that our people have endured for so long.

On one side there are sectors that are willing to negotiate over the blood of the Nicaraguan people. They want to negotiate again with U.S. imperialism. On the other side are our people, seeking a road to liberty and democracy. We believe that our people will never accept a negotiated solution. We know that the will of our people is to continue struggling until true democracy and liberation are attained. Therefore, the negotiations going on in our country are being rejected by all honest and patriotic sectors. Our people will confront the negotiations by renewing the revolutionary struggle and the struggle for democracy.

First of all, we cannot speak about mediation. What we are talking about is U.S. intervention. A mediator has to be fundamentally impartial. However, this mediator, the United States, is a most interested party. Although our people know this very well, it is necessary to explain that Somoza's military dictatorship is the product of U.S. imperialism and of the most reactionary sectors of the United States who have imposed it on our people for more than 40 years in order to guarantee their interests and their domination of our country. When we analyze the bullets that have been used against our people we know that they came from the United States. The rockets that have destroyed the homes of humble Nicaraguans are rockets that the United States supplied to the military dictatorship. The National Guard has been trained by the United States. The methods of repression have been taught Nicaraguan Guardsmen in U.S. schools, and we can never say that the U.S. presence here will solve Nicaragua's problem. On the contrary, its goal is to solve the crisis that the Somoza military dictatorship is going through. This is not mediation but intervention.

NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION ANALYZES FAO DOCUMENT

PA151439Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Nov 78 PA

[Text] The National Bar Association, which groups together the most prominent Nicaraguan jurists, has issued an important pronouncement in which it legally and very clearly spells

out point by point the unconstitutional aspects of the so-called Broad Opposition Front [FAO] document which proposes, according to the lawyers a provisional government which does away with the entire constitutional and legal regime in our country. The pronouncement was drawn up by a legal commission appointed by the Bar Association for this purpose.

The commission is made up of prominent lawyers Dr Gonzalo Barberena Romero, Dr Esperanza Centeno Sequeira and Dr Carlos (Elias) Zuniga. The said document is one of the most complete studies and profound analyses of the unconstitutionality of the FAO's intentions and the possible consequences. Because it is considered of great interest to the Nicaraguan people, and in view of the interest in political information that everyone has, we reproduce this important document to which we ask the listeners of the national network to pay their greatest attention:

After a consultation held by the Information and Press Secretariat of the Republic of Nicaragua on the program for a provisional national unity government suggested by the FAO to the international mediation commission and the annex which contains the speedy constitutional way to move from the current status to the suggested status, the Nicaraguan Bar Association--following several consultation meetings and the discussion of those documents during a meeting of its executive board and the members of its honor court--in resolution No 9 approves by a majority vote the ruling issued by its legal commission in the following terms:

A country's political constitution is the fundamental structure of political power, which tends to insure liberties and rights. In the end, the fundamental charter is rooted in its public powers, which really constitute the activity of legally organized society. Therefore, it is fitting to ask whether what the FAO proposal seeks is a partial or total reform of our "Magna Carta."

In our judgment it would be a partial reform, as they say, if the only thing sought was to modify certain constitutional principles without affecting the essence of fundamental laws, as was done with the 1950 constitution to which three amendments were incorporated--on 20 April 1955, 26 August 1959 and 25 May 1962--all of which refer to specific aspects of a (?tangible) nature. But what the FAO contends is a partial reform consists of disregarding public powers and setting up others in their place which obviously do not stem from the popular will. Political power substantially lies with the people who exercise it through their representatives in the state government without any other person or group of persons being able to claim that representation. The constitutional emphasis on this is so decisive that the violation of this principle constitutes a crime. In other words, any intention to break or overlook that constitutional requirement makes those who want to do so subject to legal punishment.

The national unity government program suggested by the FAO, together with its desires for partially reforming the constitution, leads us to the following conclusions:

1. The requested constitutional reform does not fit within the framework of a partial reform as provided for in our constitution in Article 335, Clause 1 because [words indistinct] instead of Paragraph 8 it suggests that the National Constituent Assembly constrain itself to dictating the guidelines for a new electoral regime which will insure the pluralistic participation of the people and the pureness of the election.

2. The FAO itself admits through the preceding proposal that it is not a matter of a partial reform, since a partial reform does not require the convening of a National Constituent Assembly, but only that Congress carry it out in accordance with what is set forth in Article 335 of the national constitution.

3. The FAO's proposal calls for the provisional and conditional appointment of a president of the republic chosen by Congress in keeping with Article 160, Clause 4 and Article 187 of the national constitution. The person who is chosen should replace the incumbent president, who will have to resign or be declared unfit by Congress. The president thus chosen by a joint session of Congress will commit himself, according to the FAO, to submit his resignation within the first 5 days after the council of state becomes operational.

4. The citation of Article 187 contained in the FAO proposal is not consistent with itself if we notice that the final part of this constitutional provision expressly ordains that the call to replace the president for total failure [falta] or resignation will conclude the presidential term. Therefore, it is unconstitutional because it violates the same constitution to suggest that the president resign within those 5 days, since no president can be elected or appointed conditionally. This unconstitutional aspect is all the more evident if we read the other FAO proposal which says: "10. Until the National Constituent Assembly issues a new constitution, the current constitutional guidelines will remain in effect." This would be practically impossible if all the FAO demands were accepted. On the other hand, the current Congress does not have the power to declare the president of the republic unfit according to Article 187 of the national constitution.

A strictly legal analysis of the government program submitted by the FAO leads to the following conclusions if we think about its eventual implementation:

1. There must be a previous partial reform of the constitution, because without it the procurement or obtainment of the proposed points will not be possible.

2. To proceed with the partial reform of the constitution it will be necessary to follow what Article 335 of the current constitution sets forth.

3. In accordance with that constitutional procedure, the constitution can be partially reformed only through a bill initially backed by at least 15 deputies.

4. The proposed reform must be read twice during regular congressional sessions at 3-day intervals, and the Chamber of Deputies will decide if it will take the reform bill into consideration.

5. If the reform bill is considered, a special commission will study it and issue a ruling within 8 days.

6. The ruling and the bill will be discussed in two debates, duplicating the previous conditions.

7. If the Chamber approves the bill, it will send it to the Senate, which will follow the same steps taken by the chamber.

8. If the Senate also approves the reform bill, then it will hold a bicameral congressional meeting with the deputies.

9. This bicameral congressional meeting will appoint a commission that will edit the bill within 8 days.

10. Once the bill has been approved, it will be sent to the executive branch, which will return it to Congress within a month after the next legislative session opens.

11. If the bill is approved by Congress, Congress will send the signatures [autografos] to the executive branch for publication.

12. If the bill is not approved by Congress, it will then be discussed again in two debates by a bicameral congressional meeting. Both debates will be held during the initial period of sessions.

13. The approved signatures will be sent to the executive branch for publication. The constitution states that reforms cannot be approved in a period of less than 30 days even if the terms of the constitution were reduced to the constitutionally allowed minimum. However, the FAO project wants the reforms approved within 10 days, which could not happen without violating the constitution--a violation which, according to the FAO, is a major concern and the main motivation of their type of government and their political goal of seeking institutional change. [sentence as heard]

In addition to this, the FAO proposal calling for the installation of a congressional session 3 days after the recess of the National Congress now in session to complete the reform procedure is unconstitutional since this would be in violation of Article 128 of the national constitution. Following its recess, Congress should open sessions in this capital on 15 April. This constitutional precept is unavoidable.

The FAO proposal calls for the derogation by a regular session of Congress of Article 336 of the national constitution, which states that a complete reform of the constitution can only be adopted by a National Constituent Assembly after the constitution has been in effect for 10 years and after Congress decides that there are reasons for the reform, which can then occur in line with what is established in points one to six of this article.

This FAO desire is also unconstitutional since Article 336 of the national constitution is precisely the one that defends the constitution by not allowing its derogation or reformation when it suits party interests. Our political constitution is in effect. It was promulgated on 24 April 1974. Thus, it cannot be completely reformed prior to 24 April 1984 without violating the constitution that the FAO pretends to defend.

The contradictions of the FAO documents are more evident when we note that the FAO wants the president of the republic and some members of his family to be expatriated while, on the other hand, it recommends a general amnesty for all political and related common crimes. This is contained in point four of the FAO annex.

This general amnesty would of course allow the return of the present president and his expatriated relatives. Our previous penal code, which has been derogated, had established the penalty of expatriation which would be carried out by expelling the person from the country for the time of the sentence, as stated in Articles 69 and 100 of the previous (?national constitution). The penal code now in effect eliminated that penalty because it goes against the universal principles of human rights and the modern concepts of penal and constitutional codes. Therefore, the desired expatriation of the present president of the republic is not only illegal and unconstitutional, but also goes against human rights. Besides, the imposition of that penalty, even if it were permitted by our penal laws, would of course demand a trial and sentencing since it is unconstitutional to apply sentences without a trial and a defense.

The constitutional violations are even more flagrant if we consider that the penalty should not affect any other person but the criminal, according to Article 51 of the national constitution. The FAO expatriation proposal, which lacks form and judgment, includes some members of the family of the president of the republic.

Therefore, in line with what has been stated and the legal and constitutional dispositions quoted here and letting ourselves be guided only by our unavoidable duty of watching for the juridical integrity of the constitution and the laws of the republic, the Bar Association of Nicaragua, with no partisan political interest, considers that it is its obligation to issue the following declaration:

1. The Bar Association of Nicaragua must feel involved, and in fact it does feel involved, as a result of the proposals made by the political tendencies that want a reform of our political constitution.

2. The Bar Association of Nicaragua believes it is necessary to state that it is issuing this declaration based on its charter and legal order and without partisan political interests.

3. The Bar Association of Nicaragua, as an offical institution and based on that, resolves and declares that the proposals in the FAO documents are unconstitutional.

4. Let this be made known through regular channels to all its members and to the people in general.

Managua, National District, Republic of Nicaragua, 10 November 1978.

[Signed] Juridical Commission of the Bar Association of Nicaragua;

Gonzalo Barberena Romero, Esperanza Centeno Sequeira, Carlos (Elias) Zuniga

INTENT TO RENEGOTIATE FOREIGN DEBT DENIED

PA152134Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1859 GMT 15 Nov 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 15 Nov (LATIN)--Carlos Muniz Jr, manager of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, today labeled as inexact a report published yesterday in the United States that Nicaragua is trying to renegotiate its foreign debt. "What the national banking system and Central Bank are discussing with foreign banks is credit lines to be renewed in November and December, as they have been in previous years," said Muniz. He added that "so far the large U.S. banks have maintained their credit lines to the country" in spite of "malicious" reports that there is no confidence in Nicaragua.

Muniz said that the Nicaraguan banking system has credit lines abroad to finance production and foreign trade transactions. "These transactions, which are renewed every 90 or 180 days and which are paid off with export income, reach their peak between August and April and reach their lowest level between April and August."

On the shortage of foreign currency Muniz said that the Central Bank's board of directors met last night to issue resolutions to alleviate the crisis and that these measures will be made public within 24 hours.

FIDEL CASTRO GREETS SOVIET LEADERS ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

LD131507Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Nov 78 p 4 LD

[Text] To Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Comrade A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

To mark the celebration of the 61st anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, we send the CPSU, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Government and the dear Soviet people warmest fraternal congratulations from the Communist Party, the State Council, the government and the people of Cuba. The Great October Socialist Revolution victory, which led to the establishment in Russia, on 7 November 1917, of the first worker-peasant state, fundamentally altered the political basis of society and heralded the advent of a new era in human history.

Under the leadership of their revolutionary political vanguard--the Communist Party founded by Lenin--the Soviet people victoriously repulsed fierce attacks by reactionary and imperialist forces and, under conditions of hostile isolation and harsh blockade, accomplished an unrivaled feat in consolidating the new power and making socialism an irreversible factor. The Soviet land's heroic efforts in heading the struggle, at the cost of 20 million of its best and most valiant sons, against the criminal aggressive war launched by fascism, completing it with a victory which promoted the expansion of the socialist system and was at the same time an important stage in the development of the world revolutionary movement and of the forces supporting the cause of peace, progress and the freedom of all mankind, are cause for admiration. The Soviet Union's impressive achievements in all spheres and its constant support for and solidarity with the peoples struggling against imperialism, colonialism, exploitation and all forms of social oppression confirm the correctness, vitality and topicality of Lenin's ideas and the principles of internationalism.

Now that the Soviet State has existed for a little over 6 decades, we can note that the CPSU's tireless and consistent efforts in the foreign policy sphere are the supreme guarantee and firmest bulwark for mankind in its legitimate aspiration to strengthen peace and consolidate the process of detente in the face of militarist forces' attempts to unleash a dangerous arms race leading to a new world war.

In celebrating this new anniversary of the victory of the world's first socialist revolution, we highly prize and rejoice in the remarkable successes achieved by the fraternal Soviet people in the practical implementation of the decisions outlined by the 25th CPSU Congress in its imposing and vast program aimed at reinforcing the developed socialist society. In connection with this notable event we express again our deepest thanks for the constant and decisive help which the Soviet Union is giving our country in all spheres and sincerely wish you great new successes in building communism. We also express the warmest wishes for prosperity to the fraternal Soviet people, we wish you health and personal happiness and further consolidation of the indestructible ties of communist friendship which closely link the peoples, parties and governments of the Soviet Union and Cuba on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

[Signed] Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Cuban State Council and Council of Ministers

FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT TO SRI LANKA

For Sri Lanka reportage on Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca's visit to Sri Lanka, see the South Asia section of the 16 November and subsequent issues of the Middle East and North Africa DAILY REPORT.

PRESIDENT DA COSTA ARRIVES AT ISLE OF YOUTH; RALLY HELD

FL151602 [Editorial report FL] Nueva Gerona Domestic Service (Radio Caribe) on the Isle of Youth at 1553 GMT on 15 November reports that Manuel Pinto da Costa, president of Sao Tome and Principe, has arrived at the Isle of Youth. It adds that Pinto da Costa and his entourage were welcomed by Felix Mojena Beltran, member of the party municipal committee and party second secretary on the island; Roberto Ogando Zas, president of the people's government municipal assembly; Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers; Education Minister Asela de los Santos; representatives of African students and people in general who "gave a warm welcome to the distinguished visitor" at Nueva Gerona's International Air Terminal.

Nueva Gerona adds that the Sao Tome and Principe high-level delegation headed by Manuel Pinto da Costa has begun a tour of the Isle of Youth.

Modelo Prison Visited

FL151624Y Nueva Gerona Domestic Service in Spanish 1610 GMT 15 Nov 78 FL

[Excerpt] We have just received a report that Dr Manuel Pinto da Costa, president of the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, has visited the former Modelo Prison, now Museum of the Revolution, accompanied by PCC Central Committee Politburo member Juan Almeida Bosque. Felix Sautie, director of the people's government cultural sector on the Isle of Youth, briefed them in detail on the stay of the attackers on Moncada Barracks at the former penitentiary.

Pinto da Costa Addresses Mass Rally

FL152029Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1812 GMT 15 Nov 78 FL

[Speech by Sao Tome and Principe President Manuel Pinto da Costa at solidarity event held at the Saydi Vieira Dias Mingas school on the Isle of Youth--live; in Portuguese with consecutive Spanish translation]

[Text] Comrade Almeida, Comrade Carlos Cabral: It is an honor for us to be here today with you on this Isle of Youth, which is the isle of hope, hope for our peoples who struggle for a better life. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire Cuban people for the affectionate and moving manner in which we have been received here in Cuba in all places we have visited. We have always been received warmly, which is a demonstration of the militant solidarity of the Cuban people with the struggle of peoples who want to effectively consolidate their political and economic independence.

During our stay here in Cuba, we have had the opportunity to admire the results of the Cuban revolution. We have verified that following the Cuban revolution, the creation of material conditions for all Cuban people has been realized. Moreover, it has been possible to create a type of new man to guarantee the continuation of that revolution. We are convinced that here in this school, where youths from several African countries are registered, there will also be the possibility of creating new men who will give continuity to the revolutionary tradition of the African peoples and who will guarantee a true social revolution in our respective countries.

The Angolan comrades took an oath. The Ethiopian comrades took another oath. We are absolutely convinced that these oaths are a commitment to their peoples and that they will fulfill these oaths and these commitments.

Through the training the African comrades will receive here in Cuba--technical, political and ideological--based on that training, we can say that the comrades will emerge from here ready to defend the true interests of our peoples. Here in this school, too, with the presence of several African students, we will have the possibility of creating a new type of African unity concept, a unity which should be used for the benefit of our peoples and not as an instrument to subjugate those peoples themselves.

While here, the comrades will maintain contact among themselves and, through the training they will receive in this school, the pioneers will be a part of that new African unity concept which is highly desired by our peoples. It constitutes the guarantee of a real independent development in Africa. For this reason, the imperialist countries are trying, by every means possible, to destroy that unity or erase the meaning of that unity in an effort to continue their presence in our countries and the exploitation of our peoples.

Comrades, if we are here together today, it is because of the correct policy of the Cuban Communist party; it is because of the correct policy adopted by the Cuban Communist Party. Therefore, this has made it possible for the Cuban people to adopt internationalism as one of their goals in the struggle. It is due to that internationalism and its consistent practice that we have the pleasure of seeing so many African comrades here on this isle of hope--hope for Africa, hope for Asia, hope for mankind. [applause]

Therefore, a great burden rests on your shoulders. Throughout your daily work, you must be aware that Africa is waiting for you and that the African peoples are waiting for your full contribution so that Africa may march forward, so that Africa may resolve its problems for the benefit of the African peoples and not for the benefit of small exploiting minorities.

Once more we want to take this opportunity to thank the Cuban comrades who, in an internationalist manner, have actively contributed to help the people of Sao Tome and Principe in this difficult path they are traversing. The comrades know that our people have lived for 5 centuries under Portuguese colonial domination, and that after those 5 centuries we have liberated ourselves from Portuguese colonization. We have achieved our political independence and, with great difficulty, we are trying to consolidate that independence. Through our own efforts, through the determination of the Sao Tome and Principe people, through the internationalist aid of other peoples, we are able to confront any difficulty that might arise in our country.

From the point of view of internationalist aid, Cuba has given us great aid. We appreciate that aid because we know that Cuba also has difficulties, that Cuba is undergoing its developing process. Despite that, despite its need of funds, despite its need of many physicians, many professors and many technicians, Cuba offers to countries which are really struggling for the political and economic independence the services of those cadres it dearly needs. Therefore, as we have said before, for Cuba this is a duty. Cuba accepts that as a duty. I am speaking with full revolutionary pleasure. We have to say that the true value of the aid given by Cuba to our countries can be seen in this. [applause]

Comrades, I want to conclude even though I would like to remain here longer and talk to you about many other things. But we do not have much time. Therefore, before ending this short stay here with you, this brief contact with you, I would like to convey to you greetings from all African peoples who have their eyes on you. I would like to take this opportunity to once more express my gratitude for the militant solidarity of the Cuban people with the Sao Tome and Principe people.

Long live the friendship between the Socialist Republic of Cuba and the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe! [shouts of viva] Long live the solidarity of all progressive countries with the oppressed peoples, with the peoples actively struggling for political and economic independence! [shouts of viva] Long live the powerful and real unity of the African peoples! [shouts of viva] Thank you, comrades. [applause]

Juan Almeida Speaks at Rally

FL152042Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1811 GMT 15 Nov 78 FL

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Juan Almeida Bosque, PCC Politburo member, at a meeting in solidarity with Sao Tome and Principe held at the Saydi Vieira Dias Mingas rural school on the Isle of Youth--live]

[Text] I do not see well without these glasses. Comrade President and the delegation accompanying him; comrades; students all:

The Isle of Youth is honored this morning with the visit of Comrade Manuel Pinto da Costa, president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, and the top level delegation accompanying him, and gives them a most cordial welcome. This school is not an exception; other schools in our fatherland like this one have been chosen by the Cuban people as symbols of the friendship and solidarity which we feel toward the fraternal African peoples. Therefore, it is not by chance that this simple but emotional meeting is being held precisely at a school where Angolan youths are studying, and with the participation of young Ethiopian, Mozambican, Cuban and Namibian students who place their efforts and attitudes in preparing themselves to be more useful to their peoples, just as the youths of Sao Tome and Principe who are studying in our country are also doing.

The presence of this delegation in Cuba has great significance for us because, even though our islands are far from each other geographically, Sao Tome and Principe and Cuba are very close by their origins and histories. Their inhabitants have suffered colonial domination for more than 500 years. They saw millions of men of all of Africa reduced to the condition of slavery, who by their sweat and blood would be transported to this continent to fill the coffers of the colonial nations, which were always greedy for greater wealth.

This is how the first ties were born between our two countries. Many of those slaves came to populate our island, and with the passing of time they have become part of our historical roots. As in Cuba, the slaves of Sao Tome and Principe struggled against the brutal colonial oppression, and as here they died or suffered horrendous torture for wanting themselves and their children to live in freedom. The generous blood of those slaves was joined with the blood of the Creoles in the wars of independence. Together they gave rise to the Cuban nation and together they struggled and died over a long period of time to free Cuba.

But when victory by Cuban arms was close, military intervention by the great imperialist power--the United States--frustrated our efforts and Cuba went from being a colony of the United States to being a Yankee neocolony. [sentence as heard] We Cubans had to struggle for years to achieve our full independence. Captivity lasted just as long for the brothers of Sao Tome and Principe. For centuries the enslaved people of Sao Tome struggled to free themselves of the colonial yoke. The slave rebellions during the 16th century with the last one headed by Amador Vieira, the legendary Amador--placed the colonial regime in crisis, but they were all suppressed by brutal means.

Already in this century the liberation movement gathered new strength, first in the committees for liberation and later in the movement of liberation of Sao Tome and Principe, and carried the banners of struggle for independence.

It was not until 1975 that these small islands achieved independence and Sao Tome and Principe became a democratic republic struggling against untold difficulties in developing its economy and for social progress and full independence. The Republic of Sao Tome and Principe has resisted, under the leadership of the liberation movement and its president, Manuel Pinto da Costa, neocolonial conspiracies against its independence, and today follows a domestic and foreign policy which is decidedly revolutionary. Therefore, across thousands of kilometers which separate us geographically, we give our hand as brothers in struggle and combat. Today cooperation between Sao Tome and Principe and Cuba is growing, and Cuban doctors, teachers, construction workers, technicians and specialists are offering their services in the development of the young republic. Some of its [Sao Tome and Principe's] sons are studying in our schools. Cuba is delighted to make room for these youths who tomorrow will contribute to the development of their fatherland. From this Isle of Youth, which in the past was a center of contraband, exploitation and repression where the so-called Modelo prison was erected--symbol of torture, pain and death--Fidel and his comrades left to attack the Moncada barracks on 15 May 1955 to continue the heroic struggle and transform our fatherland from a Yankee neocolony into a nation sovereign and free which firmly advances in building socialism.

Today the Isle of Youth, just as all our territory, is covered with schools, hospitals, production centers and agricultural sites. Thousands of Cuban and African youths who are full of enthusiasm are studying and working with their sights set on a future which belongs entirely to socialism.

Comrade President Pinto da Costa and the rest of the delegation accompanying him, we once again express our satisfaction for having you with us on this vist, and we are sure that it will be remembered with affection and emotion by all of our people. Long live the eternal friendship between Sao Tome and Principle and Cuba! [shouts of viva from the crowd] Fatherland or death, we will win! [shouts of venceremos from the crowd]

UNESCO DELEGATE CONDEMNS 'FORCED DOMINATION' OF COUNTRIES

FL151256Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1241 GMT 15 Nov 78 FL

[Text] The Cuban delegation to UNESCO has condemned the forced domination by certain countries over others in order to own and control natural resources. It asserted that this generates wars.

The Cuban delegation to committee No 2 which has been meeting since early this week at the 10th UNESCO conference in Paris, France, condemned those who defend general peace and wage local wars against small and underdeveloped countries. Jose Bustamante, member of the Cuban delegation to that committee, spoke during debates on the subject of world peace. In his brief remarks at the UNESCO conference in Paris, Bustamante stressed the right of peoples to struggle for their liberation and against the inhumane conditions of exploitation to which they are subjected.

JAPANESE ECONOMIC MISSION ARRIVES IN HAVANA

FL141714Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Nov 78 FL

[Text] A Japanese technical mission composed of representatives of industrial and commercial firms and financial institutions belonging to the Japan-Cuba economic conference has arrived in Havana for a 1-week stay in our country. During its stay in Cuba, the Japanese delegation will hold talks with officials of the Foreign Trade Ministry and National Bank of Cuba. It will also visit production centers.

ACTIVITY OF SOLIDARITY WITH VIETNAM HELD IN HAVANA

FL161124Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Nov 78 FL

[Text] An activity of solidarity with the fraternal Vietnamese people has been held under the theme: Latin America side by side with Vietnam. The activity was sponsored by political and mass organizations of Chile and Uruguay and it was held at the headquarters of the Cuban Institute for Friendship With Peoples (ICAP) in this capital.

Epifanio Selman, vice president of the Cuban Committee of Solidarity with Vietnam, said the heroic Vietnamese people are facing hostility and aggression from the Chinese clique which is trying to obstruct peace and constructive efforts in that country.

Selman was followed by Felix Diaz, member of the Uruguayan Communist Party executive committee and organization secretary of the Uruguayan national convention of workers, who pointed out that Vietnam was born to be free and that it is not alone because it is a nation which gained peace with the force of arms and the courage of its sons.

Laura Allende, sister of the late President Salvador Allende, spoke in behalf of Chilean antifascists. She stressed that her people never will forget that at the triumph of the popular unity in Chile, Vietnam was one of the first countries to recognize and support it.

(Hua Chien), first secretary of the Vietnamese Embassy in Cuba, made the closing remarks at the activity. He said the activity represented a vivid demonstration of the friendly feelings of Latin American friends toward his country. He said: Nothing is more precious for the Vietnamese people than independence and freedom. The 4,000-year old history of Vietnam is a vigorous manifestation of these profound aspirations.

ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FL141124Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1059 GMT 14 Nov 78 FL

[Text] The signing of a protocol by the Cuban-Czechoslovak permanent working group for cooperation in the development of electric power in our country has taken place in Havana City. The document was signed by Guillermo Carrillo, director of the (Energimport) enterprise of the Electric Industry Ministry, and (Leopold Tridy), director of the (Skodapraga) enterprise and chief of the Czechoslovak delegation.

Once the protocol was signed, the two officials asserted that the objectives of both sides have been reached with this action. The document is the result of the third session of the working group which meets semiannually within the framework of the Cuban-Czechoslovak intergovernmental mixed commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GUYANA

FL151118Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Nov 78 FL

[Text] Cuba and Guyana have signed an important economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation agreement for 1979. The comprehensive agreement, signed in Georgetown by Cuban Sugar Industry Minister Marcos Lage Coello and Guyanese Minister of Economic Development Desmond Hoyte, was the subject of official talks this past week.

During the signing ceremony, the Cuban minister declared that the talks between the two delegations were conducted in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding which characterize bilateral relations between Cuba and Guyana. He emphasized that the results were positive.

CEMA MEETING ON PRICES OPENS IN HAVANA

FL132011Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 13 Nov 78 FL

[Text] Flavio Bravo, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice president of the Council of Ministers, today made the opening remarks at the 11th conference of chiefs of price offices of CEMA member countries, which will hold working sessions at the Havana Libre Hotel until 16 November. On behalf of the Cuban Government, Flavio Bravo welcomed to our fatherland the ministers and delegates attending the meeting.

In his speech, he noted the importance that convening this type of meeting in Havana has for our country. We currently are undertaking the fulfillment of economic tasks agreed to by the first party congress, he said. He referred to those agreements directed at improving efficiency in the national economy and, first of all, the establishment of the system of management and planning of the economy, based on the application of the principles of economic planning [calculo economico].

Flavio Bravo noted that our country is now preparing its second 5-year plan and taking the first steps in discussions of the plan on social and economic development through the year 2000. He referred to the need, among many other tasks, of preparing and using prices that would make it possible to adequately compute prices in accordance with deficiency, income-yield capacity, determination of labor costs, distribution and redistribution of the social product in general and the national income, as an instrument of the policy of motivation.

Flavio Bravo pointed out Cuba's interest in undertaking measures of rapprochement in the determination of prices so that our socialist countries may have a uniform base in this field. He noted the significance of the 61st anniversary of the great October, which was commemorated by progressive mankind, and the upcoming 20th anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution.

(Anatoliy Komin), chief of the USSR delegation, thanked the vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers for his speech, which marked the beginning of the CEMA meeting of chiefs of price offices. Speaking for the delegations, (Komin), who is presiding at the conference, stated that he felt as if he were at his own home because of the warmth and energy accorded by the Cuban people.

Delegations from Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR, Czechoslovakia and representatives of the CEMA secretariat are attending the CEMA conference being held at the Ambassadors' Hall of the Havana Libre Hotel. This is the first time that the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has participated in this type of meeting sponsored by CEMA.